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Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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73
ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 /073 W
---------- 128057
R 121620Z FEB 75
FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4402
INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MASERU
AMEMBASSY MBABANE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMCONSUL DURBAN
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 0174

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, SF
SUBJECT: HARRY SCHWARZ EXPELLED FROM UNITED PARTY CAUCUS;
TWO OTHERS MPS AND ONE SENATOR GO WITH HIM

REF: CAPE TOWN 0160

1. TRANSVAAL LEADER OF UNITED PARTY (UP), HARRY SCHWARZ, WAS EXPELLED FROM UP'S PARLIAMENTARY CAUCUS TODAY. ALSO EXPELLED WAS DAVID DALLING, MP FOR SANDTON. HORACE VAN RENSBURG, MP FOR BRYANSTON, AND SENATOR BRIAN BAMFORD RESIGNED FROM CAUCUS DURING THIS MORNING'S MEETING. THEY ALL TECHNICALLY REMAIN IN PARTY, BUT IT EXPECTED THAT BEFORE LONG THEY WILL EITHER BE EXPELLED FROM OR SEVER THEIR TIES WITH UP AND JOIN NEWLY ESTAB-LISHED REFORM PARTY.

2. REVERBERATIONS OF THIS LATEST ASPECT OF STRUGGLE WITHIN UNITED PARTY HAVE SPREAD RAPIDLY. YESTERDAY TEN OF UP'S THIRTEEN TRANSVAAL PROVINCIAL COUNCILLORS RESIGNED FROM PARTY AND FORMED NEW
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OPPOSITION GROUP CALLED THE FEFORM PARTY (RP). IN

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JOHANNESBURG ABOUT HALF OF UP MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL ALSO
LEFT UP AND AFFILIATED THEMSELVES WITH RP. MANY ACTIVISTS IN
UP'S YOUTH WING HAVE QUIT THE PARTY AND OTHER UP ADHERENTS IN
CAPE PROVINCE AS WELL AS TRANSVAAL HAVE ANNOUNCED THEIR
RESIGNATIONS.

3. NEVERTHELESS, MANY PROMINENT REFORMISTS IN UP HAVE REMAINED
WITH PARTY. IN CAUCUS MEETING, FOR EXAMPLE, MP'S JAPIE BASSON,
NIC OLIVIER AND SENATOR ANNA SCHEEPERS VOTED IN FAVOR OF MOTION
OF CONFIDENCE IN UP LEADER SIR DE VILLIERS GRAAFF. IN JOINT
STATEMENT LAST NIGHT BASSON AND OLIVIER SAID UP AND ITS LEADER-
SHIP HAD MADE "STRONG VERLIGTE ADAPTATIONS" AND THAT THEREFORE
THEY COULD NOT "GO ALONG WITH ACTIONS WHICH ARISE OUT OF PERSONAL
OR PERSONALITY DIFFERENCES."

4. IT DIFFICULT TO SAY AT THIS POINT WHETHER, AS ONE OBSERVER
COMMENTED TO US, THIS IS LATEST ACT IN "POLITICAL FARCE", OR IF
IT PART OF PROCESS OF REALIGNMENT OF LIBERAL SOUTH AFRICAN POLITICAL
FORCES OPPOSED TO NATIONAL PARTY AND ITS SOCIAL AND INTERNAL
SECURITY POLICIES. FOR THE MOMENT THERE IS CONFUSION, UP IS FURTHER
WEAKENED AS EFFECTIVE OPPOSITION PARTY, ATTENTION IS SHIFTED FROM
MORE IMPORTANT ISSUES, AND NATIONAL PARTY IS IN STRONGER
POSITION THAN EVER IN WHITE POLITICS.
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To: STATE
Type: TE
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